

Quarterly Progress Report

Quarter ending June, 2001

Grant Number: 801246

Services provided to local governments, owners, managers and operators of rural utility systems and projects.

No activity this quarter.

Progress on training and education of the Contractor's Rural Utility Business Advisor.

Approval for hire was given and the incumbent, Ms. Ann Fears, was hired on March 21, 2001. The incumbent received extensive training. She attended the OIT class in Minto. She attended the community facilitator class in Bettles. She attended an orientation to ANTHC in Anchorage and met with Anchorage staff. She attended a QB class. She attended the update meeting with the engineers, RMW's and OEH in Fairbanks. She was provided basic training in Fairbanks and she traveled with staff. Unfortunately, she decided to terminate her employment rather abruptly on May 14, 2001 in favor of working for Circle. Her reasons for this were that she was offered a position she could not pass up.

The position was once again advertised. A panel of candidates selected and interviewed. A new candidate Mr. Greg Gould was selected. Mr. Gould is a recent graduate of UAF and has experience working with North Slope Borough.

Status on the "partnering" approach effectiveness and suggestions for improvement.

The working relationship between DCED and TCC is excellent and has improved dramatically as a result of the partnering. ANTHC, TCC and DCED coordinate closely on village issues and meet biannually to discuss and improve communication.

During the next reporting period, the new RUBA will receive training and be active in upcoming Utility Manager training